

Return from John o'Groats to Teesside Options – Via Wick/Inverness or Via the Orkneys/Aberdeen

25th July 2023

Option - Transfer from Wick to Inverness		Option – Via the Orkneys & Aberdeen	
<p>The plan: Friday September 22nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I leave Sandra's Hostel at 6:45am (packed breakfast) and cycle 20 miles to John o'Groats by 8:45, stay say an hour, then at 9:45 cycle 17 miles to Wick by 11:45 to get 12:34 to 17:06 (£15.60) train to Inverness (Scotrail). Costs are with a Senior Railcard. (See Scotrail on bikes. Later train 16:00 to 20:12. No hooks. Dead easy, just place them safely in the standing area for bikes. The Scotrail trains are similar to the trains through Eskdale and from Nunthorpe to Newcastle. May be a problem if there is a crowd of cyclists who have not booked I cycle to the Talisker B&B; booked one single with breakfast <p>Saturday September 23rd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotrail train to Edinburgh at 06:44 to 10:15 £34 (alternative 10:50 to 14:28) - so miss Talisker breakfast or LNER train to Edinburgh to Darlington – book two seats – 2 bike spaces - with bikes 12:00 to 14:01 @40.01 <p>Get help off taking off bikes - Cycle back from Darlington</p>		<p>The plan: Friday September 22nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leave Sandra's Hostel at 9am and cycle 20 miles to John o'Groats & arrive by 11am Get on 'JOG Ferries' (see link below) at 16:15 & arrive in Burwick at 16:55 price £18 Cycle 24 miles, about 2 hours, to Kirkwall so about 7pm Catch the ferry at Kirkwall to Aberdeen at 23:45 that arrives at 07:00 cost £28.50 (see link below). Kirkwall to Aberdeen ferry: There are three options – passengers can choose our reclining seats at £3, our sleeping pods at £18 (which are extra comfortable seats which recline up to 70 degrees allowing passengers to lie back) or cabins – for the overnight journey. 2 berth cabin £112; 4 berth cabin £109 <p>Saturday September 23rd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotrail train to Edinburgh at 09:04 to 11:22 £28.40 LNER train to Edinburgh to Darlington – book two seats – 2 bike spaces - with bikes 12:00 to 14:01 @40.01 <p>Get help off taking off bikes - Cycle back from Darlington</p>	
Costs		Costs	
Wick to Inverness	£16	JOG Ferry	£18
Talisker Hotel	£58	Aberdeen Ferry	£29
Inverness to Edinburgh (ScotRail)	£34	Sleeping POD	£18
LNER Edinburgh to Darlington – 2 seats	£40	Aberdeen to Edinburgh (Scotrail)	£28.40 or less
		LNER Edinburgh to Darlington – 2 seats	£40
Total	£148	Total	£133

Links:

<https://www.northlinkferries.co.uk/booking-info/>

<https://www.jogferry.co.uk/Ferry.aspx>

LNER bike booking <https://www.lner.co.uk/the-east-coast-experience/travel-tips/travelling-with-cycles/>

Bike storage on an Azuma train <https://www.lner.co.uk/support/faq/on-board/bikes/bikes-on-azuma/what-bike-storage-is-there-on-an-azuma-train/>

Azuma train layout https://www.lner.co.uk/globalassets/_page-structure/azuma-content/Azuma-seat-maps

Bike booking with LNER: Mike's bikes have bike tyres 6cm and handlebars 80cm. Rims? Bikes up to 25kg

- You can make a free bike reservation on our website when you book your ticket - currently limited to one bike per customer.
- If your bike tyres are wider than 5.5cm it may be necessary to let air out of your front tyre to store your bike in the racks.
- If there is another bike in the storage area and your bike handlebars are 70cm or over, you may need to store your bike by the rear wheel.
- If your bike has tyres measuring over 7.4cm or rims deeper than 50mm, (a) you will need to remove the front wheel for storage, you will be required to book out two bike spaces. (b) you'll need to book two bike spaces by using our live chat. If you've already reserved one space when booking your ticket, use our live chat to speak to a colleague about adding another reservation.